IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.:

09/931,343

Confirmati n No.:

2634

Applicant:

Hiroaki Muroya

Filed:

August 16, 2001

TC/A.U.:

2826

Examiner:

Ahmed N. Sefer

Docket No.:

075834.00102

Customer No.:

33448

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Mail Stop - Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SIR:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicant hereby petitions for a two month extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a). The time to respond is thus extended to January 5, 2004. Applicant has included a check in the amount of \$420.00 as payment of the required fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a).

RESPONSE TO ELECTION/RESTRICTION

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated

October 3, 2003, Applicants elect, without traverse, claims 1-3, and 5-12, of Invention I, directed to Embodiment 1. Applicants therefore withdraw from prosecution in the above-identified application, claims 4, and 14-18, of Invention

II, directed to Embodiment 2, but reserve herein the right to prosecute such claims in a later filed continuation or divisional application.

Applicants therefore await consideration and examination of elected claims 1-3, and 5-12, and respectfully request consideration on the merits in due course.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 5, 2004

Robert J. Depke HOLLAND & KNIGHT LLC

131 South Dearborn Street, 30th Floor

Chicago, Illinois 60603 Tel: (312) 422-9050

Attorney for Applicants

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to:

Mail Stop · Fee Amendment Commissioner For Patents Box 1450 Alexandría, VA 22313-1450

DATE:

January 5, 2004

Attorney for Applicants

This collection of Information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The Information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentially is governed by 35 U.S.C. 127 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete the complete application for the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandrie, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS

(Reg. No. 37,607)

Robert J. Depke

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TRANSMIT for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

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Application Number	09/931,343
Filing Date	August 16, 2001
First Named Inventor	Hiroaki Muroya
Examiner Name	Ahmed N. Sefer
Art Unit	2826
Attorney Docket No	075834 00100

Telephone 312-422-9050

METHODOS	Attorney Docket No. 075834,00102	
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